

OUT TAKES

Spring 2007



UTAH FILM
COMMISSION



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Cover Photo



Clayton Chase

Motion Picture Incentive Fund

The 2007 Utah Legislative Session ended on February 28th and the film industry in Utah fared well in the campaign for funding. The combined efforts of Don Schain, Tim Nelson, Charlie Evans, and others from the Motion Picture Association of Utah, as well as the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Governor, Jon M. Huntsman worked together to effectively demonstrate the economic viability of the local motion picture industry to legislators. As a result, Utah's Motion Picture Incentive Fund will see a much-needed increase beginning July 1, 2007. Though the funds will not be available until the beginning of the fiscal year, productions that

are planning shoot this summer will be able to apply for the incentives this spring. Since 2004, the Motion Picture Incentive Fund has provided \$3.3 million to film and television production and the industry answered with a Return On Investment exceeding \$49 million for the state's economy. Production spending has increased by 32% and thousands of jobs have been created.

How it works:

The incentive package offers a 10% post-performance rebate for every dollar spent in the state of Utah, plus an additional 2% rebate if the film is shot in rural Utah. In addition to the MPIF, Utah gives

addition to the MPIF, Utah gives Sales and Use Tax Exemption for machinery/equipment and rentals as well as a Transient Room Tax Refund of 3% for productions staying longer than 30 consecutive days.

Productions apply for the incentive fund through the Utah Film Commission, and then the GOED Board determines whether or not to approve the application and the amount allocated for each production.

Visit www.le.utah.gov to see the 2007 General Session State Budget Overview.

Filmmakers will have access to \$4 million available for qualifying productions. Below is a breakdown of how the MPIF is funded.

	\$2 million ongoing funds
+	\$1.5 million one-time allocation
+	\$500,000 ongoing funds (appropriated in 2006)
<hr/>	
=	\$4 million



UTAH FILM
COMMISSION

Utah Film Commission - In Focus

The winners of the 2006 Spot-On Commercial Contest are, Jedediah Cowley and his production team: Melissa Brady, Ryan Cannon, Katie Barrett, Colin Barrett, Kate Cowley and Paul Tuft, with the Letterboxers campaign. Their three commercials were

chosen as winners of the contest from 155 submissions statewide. Six judges from the film and advertising industries watched all of the submissions and chose the spots as the winners. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the judges: Jennifer Shorter and Kyle Snarr from Struck Design; Scott Chester of Treasure Hollow Films; Jeff Johnson of Jeff Johnson Casting; Jeremy Nielsen from Spy Hop Productions; and Tegan Bradford from the Sundance Institute. Cowley's team had not previously entered the contest. In addition to his three winning commercials, the judges selected seven Honorable Mentions: Ryan Cannon (Orem), Gabriel Casdorff (Provo), Megan Christensen (Logan), Luke Draper (St. George), Eric John (Hyrum), and Jeff Twede (Uinta). Cowley's three 30-second commercials: BRIDGE, EPIC, and ALLEY aired

along with the Utah Office of Tourism's "Life Elevated" commercials over 170 times on Park City Television's IN THE CAN program during the 2007 Sundance Film Festival.

As part of our new brand we are launching a new look for our website in early March. The site will include a new Resource Directory, which was developed by Viranim Technologies. Viranim is a company based in Layton whose clients include IBM, Boeing and the United States Department of Defense. Our new website will be easier to navigate, more search-friendly and will feature an updated interface. The site will also offer many new components such as, IMDB links, resume posting, and a production bulletin board for registered users. Visit film.utah.gov



2006 Spot-On contest winners

2007 Sundance Film Festival

SUNDANCE
FILM FESTIVAL

07

The Utah Film Commission has been a sponsor of the Sundance Film Festival since its inception. This year was especially significant because three films that were made in Utah were featured in the Festival. The Utah Film Commission staff was busier than ever, meeting filmmakers, attending events and marketing Utah as a location for filming. Close to 300 guests attended the Utah Film Commission's Annual Filmmakers Brunch at the Sundance House and many local and national filmmakers joined us for a panel discussion about federal incentives.

Documentary films dealing with global issues, war, genocide and family dominated this year's lineup. Sundance Founder, Robert Redford, spoke briefly at the premiere of the opening night film, CHICAGO 10, "Documentaries for

me have always been a personal love, all the way back to when I was a little kid in Los Angeles, I was very, very taken with how entertaining a sharp-edged truth could be." The Grand Jury Prize for Best Film Drama was awarded to PADRE NUESTRO, the story of a young illegal immigrant from Mexico who travels to New York seeking a father he never knew.

MOTHER SUPERIOR, a short documentary directed by Salt Lake City teens, Alex Mack and Diana Montero, played as a special screening during the festival. The film was made at Spy Hop Productions during a yearlong documentary film workshop. They are among the youngest directors to have had their film screen at Sundance. The features, IT IS FINE, EVERYTHING IS FINE! from director Crispin Glover, and DARK MATTER, from first-time

UFC Filmmakers Brunch



director, Chen Shi-Zheng, were both made in Utah and screened to eager audiences in packed theatres.

DARK MATTER is based on actual events that took place at a University of Iowa campus in 1991 when politics threatened the aspirations of a Chinese science prodigy. The film, starring Ye Liu, Meryl Streep and Aidan Quinn, was made with an all Utah crew last summer at the Utah Valley State College Campus in Orem and several locations around Salt Lake City including Federal Heights. DARK MATTER received the prestigious Alfred P. Sloan Prize at the closing night Awards Ceremony. The award is given each year to a film that excels in addressing compelling topics in science or technology and carries a \$20,000 cash award.

BYU graduate and NAPOLEON DYNAMITE producer, Jeremy Coon, premiered his latest film, AMERICAN FORK in competition at the 13th annual Slamdance Film Festival. The festival runs concurrently with the Sundance Film Festival in Park City. AMERICAN FORK was filmed in Utah last June. It is about an overweight grocery store clerk who is trying to make it in the acting world while mentoring his loser, skater-punk best friend. Coon has been to Slamdance twice — in 2003, with PELUCA, a short film that served as the basis for the 2004 hit NAPOLEON DYNAMITE and last year with the Audience Award-winning comedy, THE SASQUATCH DUMPLING GANG.



Dark Matter's Chen Shi-Zheng & Janet Yang with UFC's Mimi Davis-Taylor & Marshall Moore



UFC Jackets



Aaron Syrett

Photo by Clayton Chase



Main Street

Photo by Clayton Chase



Mother Superior's Alex Mack & Diana Montero



Jeremy Coon

Photo by Clayton Chase

Crew You Know, and Locations You Don't

Jeff T. Miller Producer

Jeff T. Miller is the Director of Production for Vineyard Productions in Salt Lake City and also works as a freelance producer with Feature Films for Families. He has produced more than a dozen IMAX and other large format projects with Academy Award winning director, Keith Merrill, including LEWIS AND CLARK, DINOSAUR HUNTERS, ZION CANYON: TREASURE OF THE GODS and YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK. Jeff's most recent projects include BONNEVILLE, which premiered at the 2006 Toronto International Film Festival and DARK MATTER,



Jeff T. Miller

which was selected for the 2007 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. Jeff also produces commercials for regional and national clients ranging from Lexus and Mitsubishi to projects for Bonneville Communications.

6 Questions for Jeff

We gave Jeff Miller six important questions to answer, and he gave us six "important" answers.

1. **UFC:** What was your first job?

JTM: "Unit manager for a \$300,000 BONNEVILLE job until they realized that I only had the experience of a PA."

2. **UFC:** What was your worst job?

JTM: "Never mention your worst job, because they are usually your next call."

3. **UFC:** Who is your favorite director?

JTM: "If I start my favorite director speech, I'll forget someone's name."

4. **UFC:** What is your favorite movie treat?

JTM: "It is only served in private clubs."

5. **UFC:** What is your favorite book?

JTM: "SAG contract."

6. **UFC:** What projects will you be working on in the near future?

JTM: "I don't know, but I hope it is incented."

Woodland Cash Store Step into a 1900s time-war

The historical Woodland Cash Store was built in 1926 and would you believe nothing has ever been filmed there? Owner Rob Lowe and his wife Carrie bought the building in September, completely renovated the space, and reopened on New Year's Day. This retro soda-shop is a throw back to the 1930s era general store complete with a vintage soda fountain and cherry colas. Its 1,600 sq. feet with 10' high ceilings and

plenty of places for base-camp and parking in the immediate area make it a very attractive location for filming. The area is "still wild" as Lowe puts it. "It's quiet with no trains and not a lot of traffic. It's beautiful out here too." Lowe has worked in the industry as a grip and lighting technician but is currently keeping his hands full with the shop and new baby boy Graham.



Woodland Cash Store

Photo by Steve Greenwood

Getting There: Located about 45 minutes away from the I-15/I-80 interchange. It's right on mile marker 4, Hwy E35 in Wolf Creek Pass. From Kamas, take a right toward Francis and from Francis take a left, then drive four miles.

Micaela Therese Nelligan
1959 - 2006



Micaela Therese Nelligan, a top Utah stage and screen actress, passed away on December 11, 2006. Micaela worked as an actress in Utah for 20 years and played roles in EVERWOOD, AMERICAN FORK, UNACCOMPANIED MINORS, THE MALDONADO MIRACLE and the REDEMPTION OF SARAH CAIN. Micaela is survived by her husband, Stephen, her mother and her brother, Sean.

In Memoriam

Dian Woodhouse
1954 - 2006



Dian Woodhouse passed away on December 12, 2006. Dian was well known in the acting community and headed the Utah branch of Screen Actors Guild as president for six years. She performed in many plays and worked as a writer, director and producer for more than 25 years. She was involved with civic and artistic communities. She is survived by her husband, Matthew, and her uncle, Bruce Bushell.

MARCH 2007

- 12 - 16: University of Utah Continuing Education: FINAL CUT PRO course (U - Annex 2169, 9AM - 5PM) continue.utah.edu
15: Spy Hop Productions Annual Benefit - An Unconventional Auction (Rice-Eccles Stadium Tower, 6:30PM) spyhop.org
21: Salt Lake City Film Center - WAR TAPES (Vieve Gore Concert Hall at Westminster College, 7PM) slcfilmcenter.org
22 - 23: The Organ Loft: LAUREL AND HARDY with Charlie Chaplin's THE PAWN SHOP and recently discovered short, CHARACTER STUDIES (The Organ Loft, 7:30 PM) organloft.com
30: University of Utah Film Studies: Documentary Video Shorts (U - Fine Arts Auditorium, 7:30PM) film.utah.edu

APRIL 2007

- 3: Science Movie Night: POWERS OF 10 (1977) (Main City Library, 6:30PM) umnh.utah.edu
5: Sundance Institute's Documentary Film Series: DENADIE (Park City Library, 7PM) sundance.org
12 - 14: AFCI Locations Trade Show 2007 (Santa Monica, California) acfi.org
20 - 22: 48Hour Film Project begins: 6:30PM (Location TBD) 48hourfilm.com/saltlakecity
20: University of Utah Film Studies: Persistent Visions 2007 - Short Films (U - Fine Arts Auditorium, 7PM)
24: 48Hour Film Project Screening (Broadway Center Theatres, 730 PM)
30 - June 5: Utah Valley State College: FILMMAKING BOOTCAMP series (UVSC Campus) trimro@uvsc.edu

MAY 2007

- 2: Shortcuts Film Festival (Bountiful High School Auditorium - All Day Event) shortcutsfilmfest.com
3: Sundance Institute's Documentary Film Series: THIS FILM IS NOT YET RATED (Park City Library, 7PM)
11: Spy Hop Production's Locomotion International Youth Film Festival (Main City Library -Workshops and Screenings - All Day Event) spyhop.org
16: Salt Lake Film Society: Open Mic Night (Tower Theatre, 9PM) saltlakefilmsociety.org

JUNE 2007

- 7: Sundance Institute's Documentary Film Series: BLACK GOLD (Park City Library, 7PM)



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